

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No: To Be Assigned
Applicant: Naoki Sera, et al
Filed: Herewith
Title: MOVABLE CONTACT UNIT WITH OPERATING PROJECTIONS, METHOD OF MOUNTING OPERATING PROJECTIONS AND OPERATING PANEL SWITCH USING MOVABLE CONTACT UNIT WITH OPERATING PROJECTIONS
TC/A.U.:
Examiner:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the reference listed on the PTO 1449 (RP) submitted herewith. A copy of the listed reference is also enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

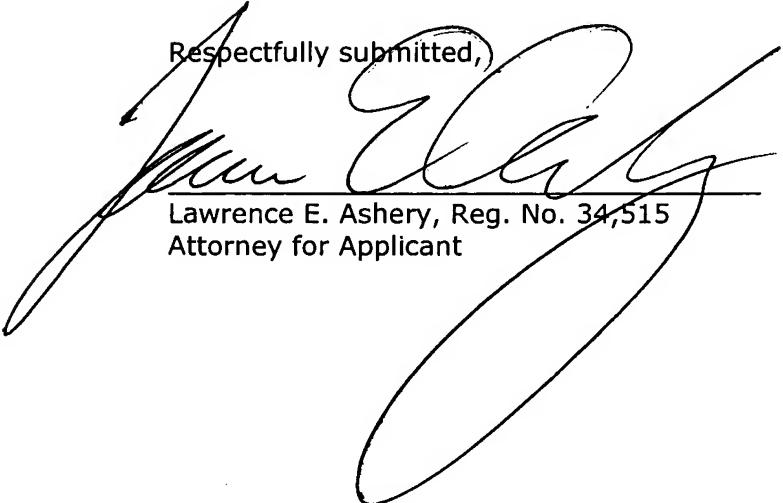
The following Japanese reference is not in the English language but an English abstract thereof is attached to the copy of the reference submitted herewith:

- 1) JP 2002-216582

References 1) also includes a "concise explanation" under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) which is set forth in the background portion of the specification at page 1.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the above-referenced application.

Respectfully submitted,


Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515
Attorney for Applicant

LEA:ds

Enclosures: PTO Form 1449
(1) Reference

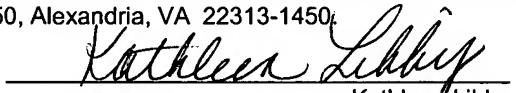
Dated: December 3, 2003

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I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Kathleen Libby

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| Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | Complete if Known | |
| | Application Number | To Be Assigned |
| | Filing Date | Herewith |
| | First Named Inventor | Naoki Sera, et al |
| | Art Unit | |
| | Examiner Name | |
| SHEET 1 of 1 | Attorney Docket No. MAT-8487US | |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|----------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (If known) | | | | |
| | | JP 2002-216582 (w/English abstract) | 08/02/2002 | Matsushita Electric Ind Co Ltd | Entire Document | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3).

⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

5Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible

⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached

The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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